

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 04974 291031Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05

IGA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /033 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8289

INFO AMEMBASSY AUCKLAND

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEN, MY

SUBJECT: ASEAN SUMMIT

1. SUMMARY. ASEAN SUMMIT WILL FOCUS ON ACCELERATING INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION. UNSPOKEN, BUT CLEAR, EMPHASIS WILL BE ON POST-SUMMIT ASEAN-JAPAN DIALOGUE. END SUMMARY.

2. GOM SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, IN LENGTHY PRESS STATEMENT, REITERATED THAT MAJOR FOCUS OF ASEAN SUMMIT WILL BE TO ACCELERATE DEVELOPMENT OF ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS (UREA PLANTS FOR MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA, SUPER-PHOSPHATES FOR THE PHILIPPINES, DIESEL ENGINES FOR SINGAPORE AND SODA ASH FOR THAILAND). SECGEN COMMENTED THAT FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON SOME OF THE PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED BUT THAT STUDY FOR MALAYSIA UREA PLANT WOULD NOT BE COMPLETE UNTIL SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER. WHILE PRESS RELEASE DID NOT COMMENT ON JAPANESE AID TO PROJECTS, GENERAL FEELING IN GOM IS

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PAGE 02 KUALA 04974 291031Z

THAT JAPAN WILL AGREE TO PROVIDE US\$1 BILLION IN AID ASEAN HAS REQUESTED FOR THESE PROJECTS.

3. SECGEN ALSO COMMENTED THAT ASEAN COUNTRIES WILL BE SEEKING BETTER ACCESS FOR THEIR MANUFACTURED GOODS IN AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND PARTICULARLY JAPAN. ASEAN WILL ALSO BE PUSHING JAPAN FOR STABILIZATION OF EXPORT EARNINGS

AGREEMENTS AND A PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENT.

4. MFA ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT GOVERNORS OF ASEAN CENTRAL BANKS WILL BE SIGNING A US\$100 MILLION "SWAP" AGREEMENT TO ASSIST MEMBERS FACING SHORT TERM BALANCE OF PAYMENT PROBLEMS. THE FUND WILL LOAN MEMBERS UP TO US\$40 MILLION FOR UP TO SIX MONTHS TO MEET SHORT TERM COMMITMENTS. COMMENT: GIVEN PRESENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND SIZE OF FUND THIS MOVE APPEARS TO BE MORE A SHOW OF ASEAN "SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION" THAN ONE OF ANY REAL SIGNIFICANCE.

5. COMMENT: WHILE OFFICIAL MFA STATEMENTS GIVE EQUAL IMPORTANCE TO CLOSED ASEAN MEETINGS AND ASEAN MEETINGS WITH AUSTRALIA, JAPAN AND NEW ZEALAND THE MAJOR EMPHASIS OF THE SUMMIT WILL BE CLEARLY FOCUSED ON THE POST-SUMMIT ASEAN-JAPAN CONSULTATIONS. ASEAN IS EXPECTING THE JAPANESE TO BE FORTH-COMING IN MEETING ASEAN REQUESTS AND AS ONE MFA OFFICIAL, WHO IS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN ASEAN MATTERS, RECENTLY SAID TO EMBOFF "WE EXPECT FUKUDA TO COME WITH A BRIEFCASE FULL OF MONEY." MILLER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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